

Deadly Didge 'n Dance Fest dubbed the 'deadliest' festival of them all!!!

One of Palm Island's main centenary events for 2018 – the Palm Island Deadly Didge 'n Dance Festival – has won a Townsville North Queensland Tourism and Events Award for excellence against a mainstream field of tough competition.

The Awards were established to recognise and foster excellence within Townsville North Queensland's tourism industry, and allow the industry to recognise the people, places, organisations and events that have gone above and beyond to offer superior tourism experiences for visitors in the Townsville North Queensland region.

Mayor Alf Lacey said he was overwhelmed by the win.

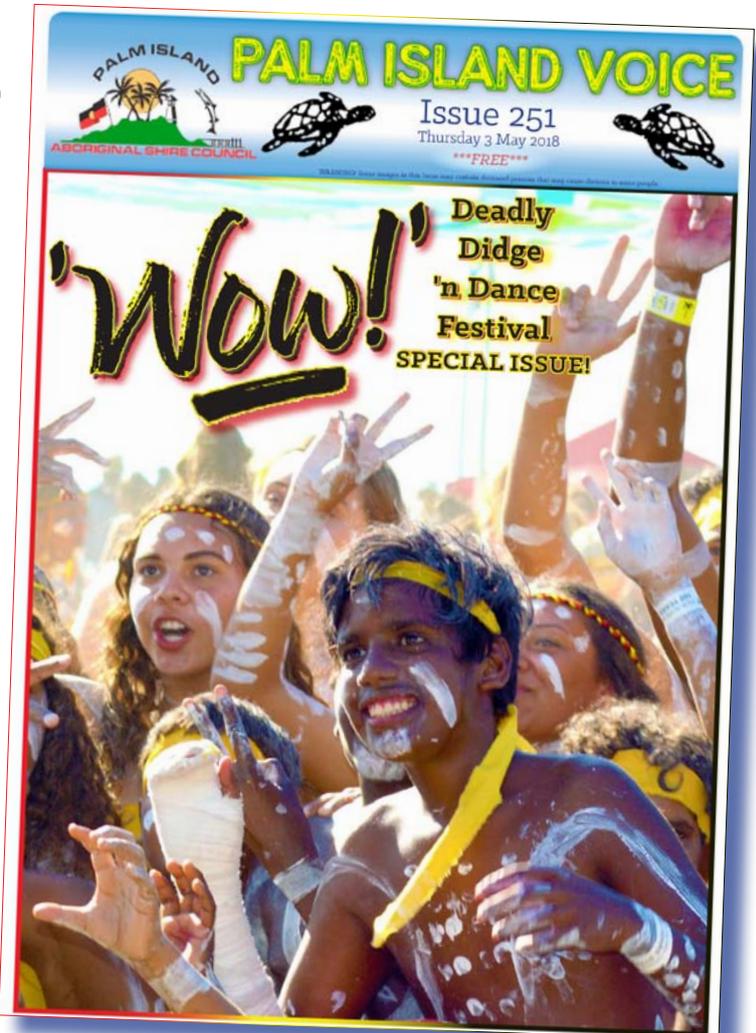
"We accept this award on behalf of our community, our workers and our volunteers and we recognise there was a lot of people in Townsville who supported us as well including Townsville Enterprises," he told a crowd of several hundred award ceremony attendees.

"I think this just adds to our Centenary for this year.

"We accept this award very humbly and very gratefully."

He said he particularly wanted to thank Jennifer Ketchell and the Centenary committee for their hard work, as well as the Council's own staff and the community volunteers.

Continued...



“This Award is dedicated to the committee, Council staff and the community itself because it was a whole of community event, it wasn’t just the Council and it wasn’t just our committee, everyone got behind it and made it the success that it was,” Cr Lacey said.

“Congratulations to everyone who was there for your dedication and for coming together to put on this award winning event.

“This is what Bwgcorman is about and as your Mayor it makes me very proud.

“It’s an excellent achievement for our community and just goes to show anything is possible.

“If this is what our future looks like, and I believe it is, we have a lot to look forward to.”



Underwater museum one step closer

The Southern Hemisphere’s first Museum of Underwater Art (MOUA) is one step closer with the artist set to design installation, Jason deCaires Taylor, in the region conducting research for the project.

Community consultations have been held on Palm and Magnetic Islands where he also met with local businesses, representatives from Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville City Council, Palm Island Shire Council, and Perc Tucker Gallery, and toured proposed sites at The Strand, Magnetic Island, Palm Island and John Brewer Reef.

Meetings with Traditional Owners, Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) and Umbrella Studio have also taken place.

Jason said he was very

excited to be heading up such a pioneering project.

“This project presents a rare opportunity to combine reef conservation, pioneering marine science with education, culture and a strong economic model to promote tourism of the region,” he said.

The Museo Subacuático de Arte off the coast of Cancun, Mexico, which Jason created in 2009, resulted in an increase of annual visitor numbers of almost 400,000.

Townsville Enterprise CEO,

Patricia O’Callaghan said the project had the potential to further extend Townsville North Queensland’s existing educational, reef and tourism offerings.

“As a Southern Hemisphere first, the Museum of Underwater Art will also provide a significant economic boost to our region, anticipated to attract an additional 50,000 visitors annually upon completion, with an estimated economic impact of \$42M each year,” she said.





MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Council staff were happy to take these photographs of the good work they are doing constructing a pathway funded to go all the way from the jetty to Klub Kuda, linking the Farm, Chook City, Kitchener Bligh and Rodeo Grounds Estates to the centre of Town. Well done fellas!

Health care workers take bloods through every step of the lab process

Palm Island's Sexual Health Clinic Indigenous primary health care workers recently undertook three days of eye-opening training at Townsville's Pathology Queensland laboratories to further their understanding of pathology processes.

Leah Lenoy (right) and Owen Creed (below) worked closely with laboratory manager David Porter and his clinicians across a variety of areas.

"Leah and Owen did an exceptional job in blood collection, central specimen reception, chemical pathology, microbiology and haematology," David said.

"It's really important that they got an inside look into the pathology component and spent time in the laboratory because pathology collection, handling and transport all play an important part of their roles."

David said following each part of

the process step by step was an important part of understanding why each step was important.

He said the professionalism shown by both Owen and Leah was commendable, with the duo coming in eagerly each day to help clinicians and ask questions.

"It was so great to see how enthusiastic Leah and Owen were to learn the different processes and see how everything tied in together," David said. "I can't speak highly enough of their professionalism and dedication and encourage anyone whose roles revolve around pathology to come in and learn in a receptive environment where they can get experience and information from the experts."

Leah said coming to Townsville's Queensland Pathology laboratory went a long way towards her understanding and appreciation of everything that happened away from the clinic.

"It was really eye-opening



because on our end, we take the blood, send it away and wait three days, not knowing all the work that goes into getting the results," Leah said.

"Uncle Owen and I are very appreciative they have taken the time to show us what they do and their area, and we learnt so much from them.

"We have already taken it back to our clinic, talked about it to our team and changed some of our practices as a result.

"We've also gone back to our clients and told them that it's not just about taking blood, it's all these other things that happen in the background, which is why it's important that you come in and get samples done at certain times so we can better your health."



PALM Islanders Vern Daisy, Milton Thaiday and Josh Geia were officially honoured as rugby league legends at an emotional ceremony during the official opening of the Arthur Beetson Foundation Murri Knockout rugby league carnival in Townsville.

The official opening was held on day three when more than 20 former players were acknowledged as legends.

Palm Island's contribution to the sport was recognised by several speakers including Bindal boss Jenny Pryor.

"We would not have been here today without the support from Palm Island teams and supporters since we started running a Townsville Allblacks carnival 33 years ago," she said.

"I want to thank them from the bottom of my heart.

"All you young ones should take advantage of having these legends here today."

Palm Islanders turned out in big numbers for the carnival, and had by far the most supporters over the five days.

Mayor Alf Lacey said many of the audience would fondly remember the late Aunty Eva (Geia) beating her drum when the Barracudas played in the Townsville competition at the venue.



Pics on this page include: League legends Colin Scott, Steve Renouf, Sam Backo, Vern Daisy, Milton Thaiday, Vern Daisy and Josh Geia; Palm Island Mayor Alf Lacey with TayTay Lacey (2) and Yarrabah's Bishop Malcolm; Obe Geia and Fred Bulsey with their families, and Lex Wotton with his son Billo and baby grandson Jacob Bulsey.



2018 Murri Knockout



OUR Palm Island Barracudas Green side was unlucky not to reach the finals series at the Arthur Beeton Foundation Murri Knockout rugby league carnival.

A total of 25 men's sides, 10 women's teams, four under 12 and ten under 15 junior division competitions were held. In a game which could have gone either way, Barracudas Green lost their first of three qualifying matches 24-22 to Mackay Stallions which was chockers with Q-Cup players. A few refereeing decisions were 50-50 calls.

In their other matches Barracudas Green defeated Burdekin River Brumby's 30-6 and then beat Yam Island side Magun Warriors 24-6. They came in 10th overall just half a point from eighth position.

The winners were Skytrans Wenlock River Stallions who defeated Mackay Stallions in the men's grand final; in the women's Emus Girls d Flora Sandilands Memorial while in the Under-15s Elijah Heroes came up trumps and in the Under-12s the North Coast Dolphins were the champions.

BARRACUDAS GOLD

Barracudas Gold fielded a young side and on day one lost 40-12 to Matty Bowen Invitational, which included quality NRL Parramatta Eels players Bevan French and Will Smith. And of course former Cowboys legend Matty himself. After that Gold lost 28-6 to Mackay Stallions, and 50-6 to Gulf Warriors, finishing 24th overall.

AJA'S BOYZ

Aja's Boyz, which is a side consisting of many players from the Geia family, won the Townsville Bindal carnival last year but was down some stars from that campaign.

The Genami Geia jnr coached side lost 18-16 to Brothers United, 30-10 to Yarrabah Seahawks and in round three defeated Cannonball 22-nil to finish 15th overall.

UNDER-15s

In the Under-15 qualifying games, Barracudas 30 d Cannonball 28 but didn't quite make it to the semis.

Palm Island Voice



Public &
Community Notices



Don't forget!!!

The next DEADLINE
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(264) is

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FOR PUBLICATION

**Thursday
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Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Prime Minister and Cabinet- 1800 079 098, can link
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TAIHS Ferdy's Haven

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Address: 57-59 Gordon Street, Garbutt.



**PIASC has two positions vacant – a
cook at the Sandy Boyd Hostel and a
mechanic – both closing on MONDAY
22 October 2018. For more information
contact Council Reception asap.**

**Operating Hours for
Council are Monday–Friday
8am – 5pm**



If you have any
questions please
contact Reception
on 4770 1177 or
4770 0200



Palm Island
Aboriginal
Shire Council
has 2,804
'likes' on
Facebook!!!

Palm schools taking the lead in Cowboys' Try-for-5 competition

Palm Island Schools are coming top and third on the recently released Try for 5! leaderboard.

The Cowboys Try for 5! program is an intra-school challenge, designed to address short and long term impacts of students missing foundation learning in their primary years through poor school attendance.

Bwgcorman Community School is in first place, Ayr State School in second and St. Michael's School in third out of more than 20 schools in the competition.

Bwgcorman Community School has an 8.86% improved attendance rate.

Try for 5! ambassador Ray Thompson visited Bwgcorman in Term 3 and spoke of the high level of student engagement.

"When I talked about self-motivation the students responded really positively, especially when we discussed the fun aspects of school and why they choose to come every day," Ray said.

During his visit Ray spoke about respect and the three different ways respect is important.

"I talked about the importance of respecting others, respecting the



environment and most importantly, respecting ourselves," Ray said.

Ray balanced these important messages with interactive fun, dancing with the Year 1 class to the Cowboys theme song.

Ambassador visits inspire students to attend school daily, and tailored plans deliver extra help to students with a low attendance record.

"By acknowledging individual

and collective successes during our visits we inspire kids to do their best, and then plans help with making sure kids stay on track when we're not there to reward them," Ray said.

"It's because of the hard-work of everyone involved, and the support from Sun Metals, that positive results come about, and it's equally rewarding for us to see how hard students try."





Bulsey junior achieving footy dream

Isaac Bulsey has made 2019 Townsville Mendi Blackhawks Under-20s side and he is – understandably – excited!

He said he couldn't wait for the pre-season to start.

“This is a great opportunity for me,” he said.

“I'm someone who loves rugby league, someone who played barefooted in my back yard with my brothers and cousins as little youngsters, just because we thought it was fun.

“Right up to now I still love playing alongside my brothers and my father Fred Bulsey Snr, who captained the Palm Island Barracudas for 16 years.

“I'm always happy to go away and play in Carnivals for the Palm Island Barracudas, my home team – I've always wanted to play with them.

“I've watched so many of the older players to through so many Allblack Carnivals as I was a teenager.

“Being on the Blackhawks side, I want to be a superstar and a good role model for my community and the younger ones who live here in the Palm Island community.”

